

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

SAM-01 SAJ-01 SCCT-02 DRC-01 /155 W

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O R 121710Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 009

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

USUN NEW YORK 508

CINCLANT

USCINCEUR

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DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2947

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO

SUBJ: SOLUTION TO PORTUGUESE GUINEA PROBLEM EXPECTED SOON

REF: A) LISBON 2778

B) LISBON 2903

C) LISBON 2874

D) USUN 2388

E) USUN 2398

SUMMARY: REPORTS FROM A VARIETY OF EMBASSY SOURCES NOW STRONGLY SUGGEST THAT THE WAR IN GUINEA-BISSAU WILL SOON BE SETTLED. END SUMMARY.

1. REPORTS COMING TO EMBASSY FROM A VARIETY OF CREDIBLE SOURCES CONSISTENTLY SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING SCENARIO FOR ENDING THE PORTUGUESE GUINEA PROBLEM:

- DE FACTO END TO THE WAR HAS ALREADY OCCURRED. NEITHER SIDE CAN OR WILL REOPEN THE FIGHTING.
- POLITICAL SOLUTION MAY BE EXPECTED WITHIN TWO WEEKS.
- GOVERNMENT OF GUINEA-BISSAU WILL BE RECOGNIZED BY PORTUGAL.
- CABO VERDE WILL BE TREATED SEPARATELY.

2. SOURCES FOR THIS INFORMATION ARE:

- FOREIGN MINISTER SOARES (REF A)
- MINISTER FOR INTERTERRITORIAL COORDINATION ALMEIDA SANTOS (REF B)
- PRESIDENTIAL DIPLOMATIC AIDE NUNES BARATA (REF C).
- FRENCH UN REP REPORT ON JULY 8 SENGHOR/SPINOLA MEETING (REF D).
- PAIGC UN OBSERVER ARAUJO (REF E).

3. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE:

- THE AMBASSADOR WAS TOLD EVENING JULY 10 BY COUNCIL OF STATE MEMBER AND AIR FORCE CHIEF NETO THAT DE FACTO CEASEFIRE WAS IN EFFECT IN GUINEA, WAR COULD NOT BE CONFIDENTIAL

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RENEWED BY EITHER SIDE NOW, PORTUGAL HAD ALREADY STARTED TO WITHDRAW TROOPS, AND MODALITIES OF POLITICAL SOLUTION HAVE LIKELY BEEN WORKED OUT DURING JULY 8 SPINOLA/SENGHOR MEETING.

--IN CONVERSATION ON JULY 11 FOREIGN MINISTRY SECRETARY-GENERAL ANDRESEN TOLD EMBOFF THAT QUESTION OF GUINEA-BISSAU RECOGNITION WOULD BE RESOLVED IN TWO WEEKS. ANDRESEN TOOK RELAXED ATTITUDE TOWARD SC PROBLEM, DID

NOT REQUEST US ASSISTANCE IN UN, AND SAID THAT GOP WAS NOT ASKING THAT HER ALLIES OPPOSE GUINEA-BISSAU RECOGNITION, SIMPLY THAT THEY GO ALONG WITH DELAY IN CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION.

--IN JULY 10 MEETING WITH ARMA AND CONGEN WALKER, COUNCIL OF STATE MEMBER AND PRESIDENTIAL MILITARY AIDE LTC. BRUNO SAID THAT GUINEA PROBLEM WOULD BE RESOLVED IN VERY NEAR FUTURE.

--AT DINNER JULY 10 AT EMBASSY, EX-FOREIGN MINISTER SOARES AGAIN CONFIRMED TO AMBASSADOR THAT EVERYTHING WAS ALL SET FOR GUINEA SOLUTION AND THAT GUINEA HAD NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN A FACTOR IN RESIGNATION OF CABINET MINISTERS. HE EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN THAT CURRENT CABINET CRISIS MIGHT BE MISINTERPRETED BY PAIGC AND THEREBY DELAY SOLUTION.

--ON JULY 10 PRES. SPINOLA TOLD NICOLAU MARTINS NUNES, PRESIDENT OF THE LIGA POPULAR DOS GUINEUS, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM FLING AND MDG, THAT GOP WOULD SOON ANNOUNCE RECOGNITION OF STATE OF GUINEA-BISSAU, ALTHOUGH SPINOLA SYMPATHIZED WITH NUNES AND HIS COMPANIONS, HE SAID THE SOLUTION WAS A "FACTO CONSUMADO."

--FONOFF CHIEF OF CABINET TOLD DCM JULY 11 DATE FOR ANNOUNCING SETTLEMENT HAS BEEN SET FOR NEXT WEEK.

4. EMBASSY DOES NOT YET HAVE RELIABLE INFORMATION ON EXACTLY HOW SETTLEMENT WILL BE WORKED OUT. GOP HAS CLEARLY ABANDONED ITS POSITION ON REFERENDUM. SOME OTHER INSTRUMENTALITY SUCH AS THE PEOPLES CONGRESS MIGHT BE USED TO PERMIT THE TYPE OF EXIT WHICH WOULD NOT SET A BAD PRECEDENT FOR THE OTHER TERRITORIES.
SCOTT

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